



**Georgia Department of Education
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<http://www.doe.k12.ga.us/nutrition/snp.html>
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FD2000 Project Coordinator
Food Distribution Division - FNS
3101 Park Center Drive
Ford Avenue Bldg. - Room 601
Alexandria, Virginia 22302

Dear Project Coordinator:

I am the Resource and Education Training Specialist for the state of Georgia in the Department of Education, and I wish to submit my comments on the February 14, 2000, USDA Proposal for Change. I deal with procurement and training in all aspects of the local foodservice operation, including nutrition.

There was a lack of specific information in the proposal document on which to make a thorough determination of the effects on the local school systems. One of my major concerns is with the procurement implications of some proposed changes. Other concerns include food safety, food specifications in terms of nutrition, and potential for the use of non-domestic foods.

Testing best value contracting, moving toward national umbrella contracts with processors (based on implementation), facilitating the processing of commodities with limited demand, developing written hold and recall procedures, reducing the duration of product holds at the school level, publishing commodity recall reimbursement procedures, and relaxing truckload requirements all appear to be good concepts. Also, those concepts could easily be applied to the current Food Distribution Program. I am, however, totally opposed to allowing vendors to use commercial labels and to expanding full substitutability of commodity product.

Is there any information regarding baseline information/data, expected outcomes, and evaluation methods for the pilots? Have control states for the current Food Distribution Program been identified? I was unable to locate the answer to these two questions by looking on the Internet site for the pilots.

Thank you for considering these comments.

Sincerely,

Carrie Lynn Davis, Ph.D.
Resource and Education Training Specialist